



ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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An apparatus for forming outlines is so adapted that by providing each point on an outline with vector information for movement of the control-point, in which weight serves as a parameter, it is possible to generate characters of a plurality of weights using a single item of outline data. For example, X and Y coordinates of an control-point whose thickness is weight 1 and movement information for obtaining a function that represents the movement vector of an control-point corresponding to the weight at the time of outline generation are stored in a storage medium. By way of example, the movement information is an amount of movement (referred to as a vector-x component and a vector-Y component) of each control-point of weight 10 in an X direction and Y direction, respectively. When a character code and a weight are designated, the X and Y coordinates and the movement information of each control-point of the designated character are read out. For each and every control-point, a function for expressing a movement vector in which weight is a parameter is decided by the X, Y coordinates and the movement information. The X and Y coordinates of the control-point corresponding to the designated weight are obtained by the function, and outline generation is executed based upon the X and Y coordinates, whereby an outline pattern conforming to a designated weight is obtained.

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